

HB 929 -- Mental Health Services

Sponsor: Cornejo

This bill changes the laws regarding the detention of a person for the purpose of mental health evaluations and treatment under Chapter 632, RSMo.

The bill defines "gravely disabled" as a condition in which a person, as a result of mental illness or mental disorder, lacks judgment in the management of his or her resources and in the conduct of his or her social relations to the extent that his or her health or safety is significantly endangered and he or she lacks the capacity to understand that this is so. A person of any age can be gravely disabled, but the term must not include a person who has a developmental disability by reason of the person's developmental disability alone;

The basis for determining to detain or release a person for the purpose of evaluation and treatment must now include a person who suffers from a mental disorder and presents a likelihood of serious harm to himself or to others or is gravely disabled.

The bill also adds Boone County to the counties that may employ an additional assistant prosecuting attorney and investigative and clerical personnel to assist a prosecuting attorney in his or her duties relating to mental health and mental health facilities with the annual compensation for the employees paid out of the state treasury from funds appropriated for that purpose.